



# PPS<sup>1</sup>, MPE<sup>2</sup> Update

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National Weather Service  
Silver Spring, MD  
May 22, 2002

- 1 (WSR-88D) Precipitation Processing Subsystem
- 2 (AWIPS) Multi-Sensor Precipitation Estimator



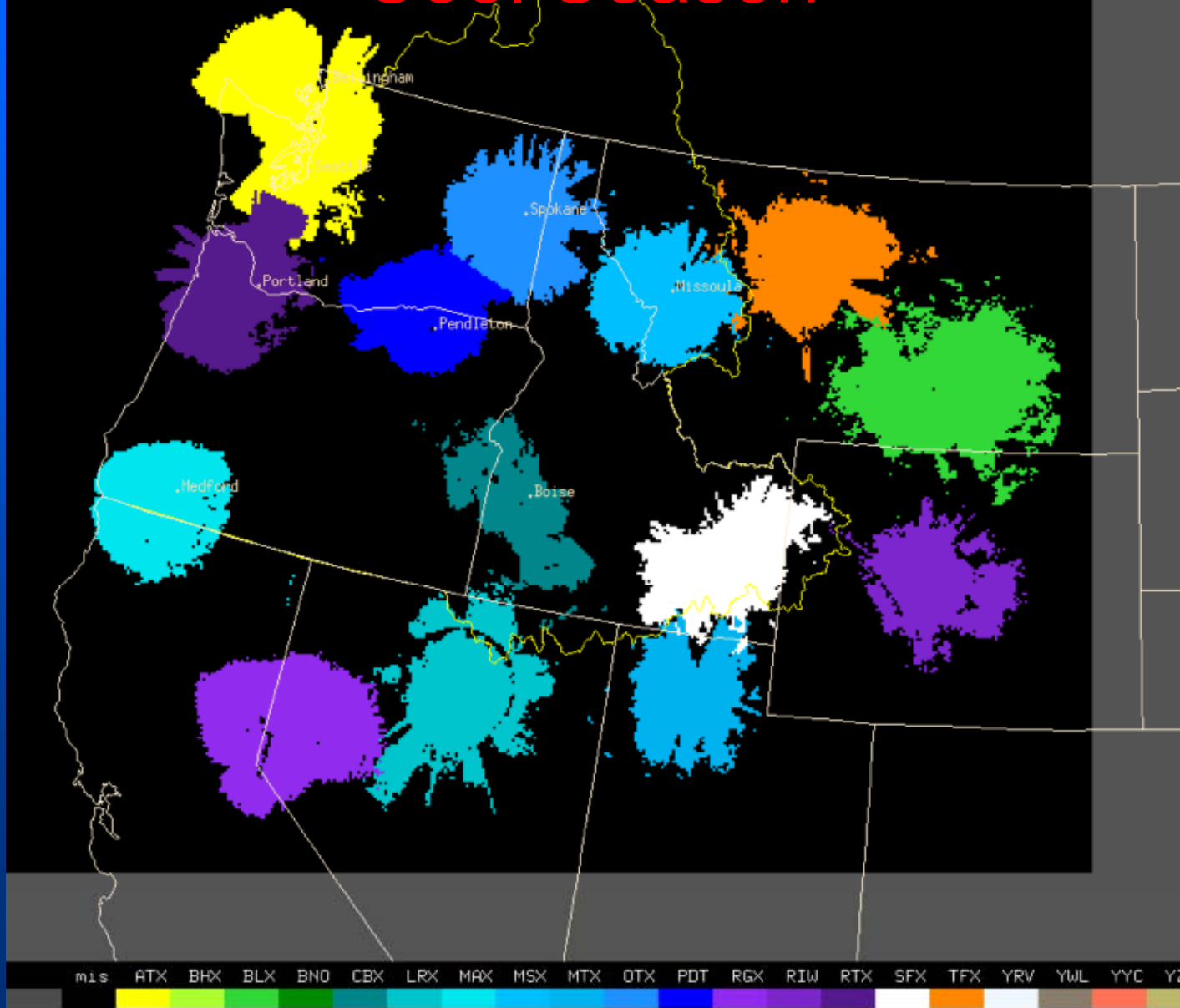
# Issues driving improvements in radar-based/aided precipitation estimation

- Systematic biases in
  - detection of precipitation
  - estimation of (in particular, large) precipitation amount given successful detection of precipitation



# "Effective" Coverage Mosaic - NWRFC

## Cool Season

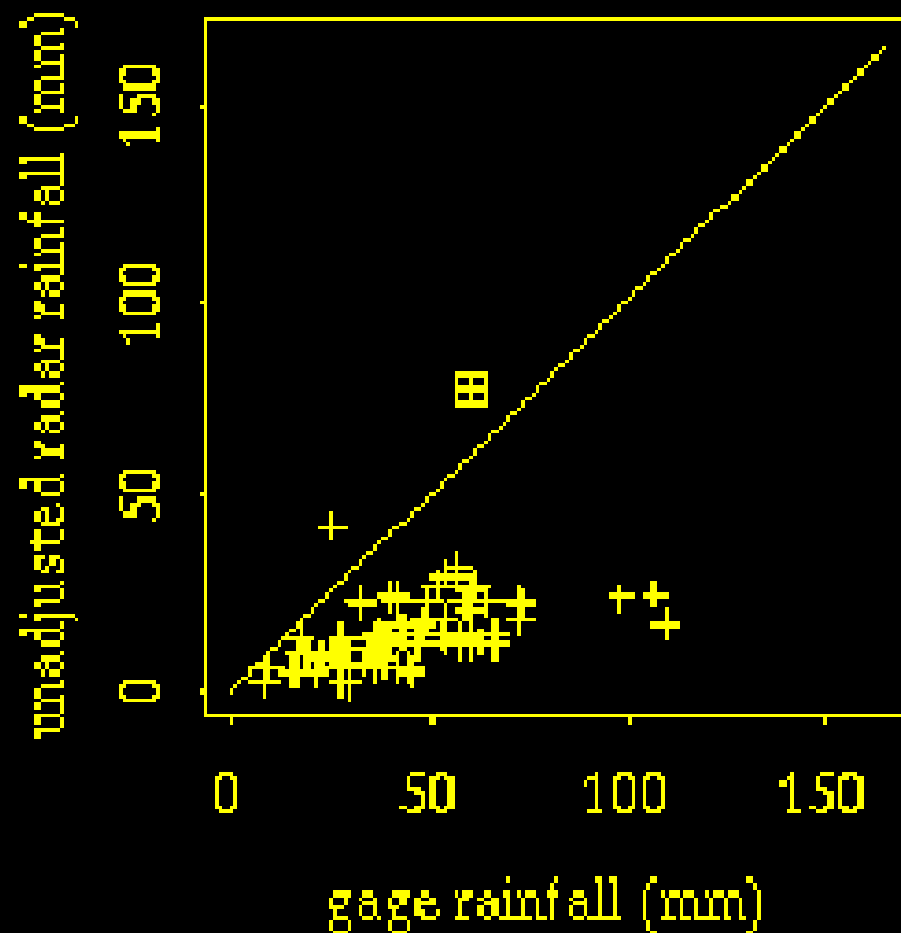




# Mean field bias due, e.g., to lack of radar calibration

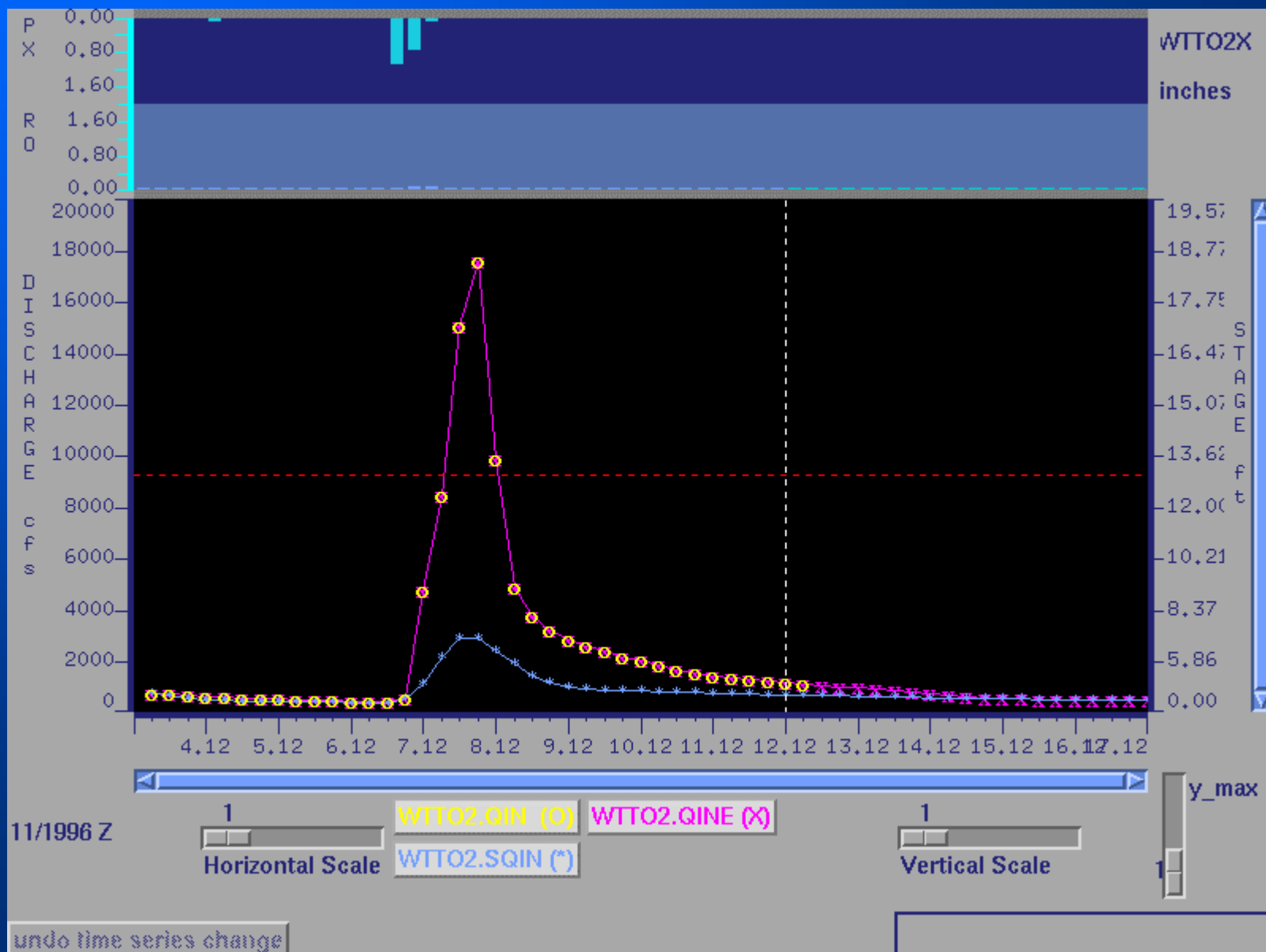


KTLX, 1/8 Network, Cool Season, Neutroff=9



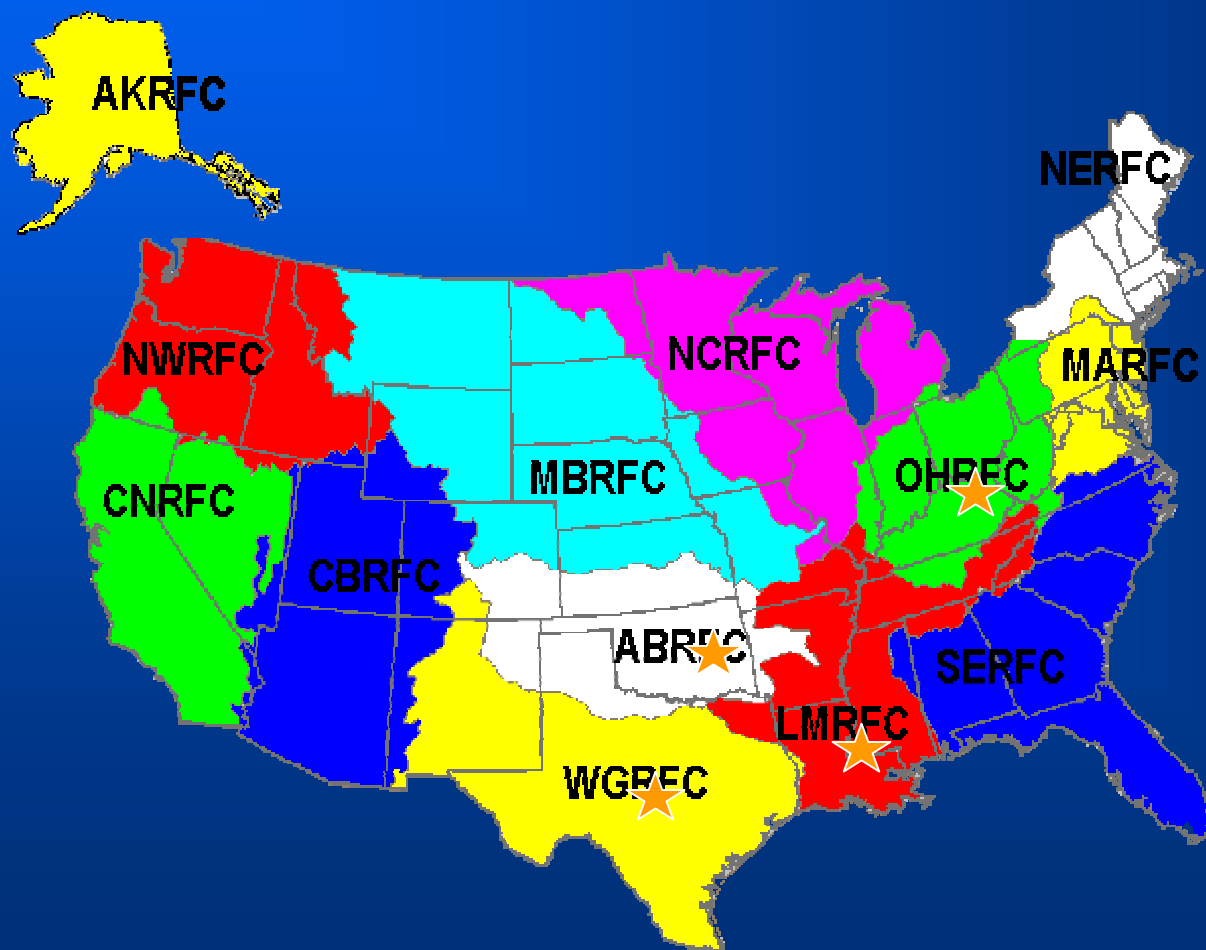


# Hydrograph Simulation - Biased Precipitation Input





# Use of Radar-Based/Aided Precipitation Estimates In Quantitative Hydrologic Forecasting





# PPS - ORPG Bid 1

- (Quick) Fix to the truncation problem [OHD]

# PPS - ORPG Bid 2

- Mean Field Bias correction (MFB) [OHD]
- Radar Echo Classifier (REC) [NCAR,ROC,OST]



## Product Tabular Data

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SUPPLEMENTAL PRECIPITATION DATA - RDA ID 303 05/08/02 21:03

VOLUME COVERAGE PATTERN = 21 MODE = A TIME CONT: PASSED

GAGE BIAS APPLIED - YES  
BIAS ESTIMATE - 0.90  
EFFECTIVE # G/R PAIRS - 11.47  
MEMORY SPAN (HOURS) - 168.01  
DATE/TIME LAST BIAS UPDATE - 05/08/02 21:05

NUMBER OF ISOLATED BINS - 413  
INTERPOLATED OUTLIERS - 0  
REPLACED OUTLIERS - 0  
AREA REDUCTION (PERCENT) - 39.88  
BI-SCAN RATIO (RATIO) - 0.00

## Product Tabular Data

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### GAGE-RADAR MEAN FIELD BIAS TABLE

LAST BIAS UPDATE TIME: 05/08/02 21:05

BIAS APPLIED ? YES

MEMORY SPAN (HOURS)	EFFECTIVE NO. G-R PAIRS	AVG. GAGE VALUE (MM)	AVG. RADAR VALUE (MM)	MEAN FIELD BIAS
0.001	0.000	2.794	1.189	2.351
1.000	0.000	2.794	1.189	2.351
2.000	0.000	2.794	1.189	2.351
3.001	0.000	2.790	1.189	2.347
4.998	0.000	2.758	1.196	2.307
10.004	0.012	2.672	1.252	2.134
168.006	11.471	2.230	2.477	0.900
719.819	107.348	2.436	2.992	0.814
2160.295	248.829	2.551	2.980	0.856





# PPS - ORPG Bid 3

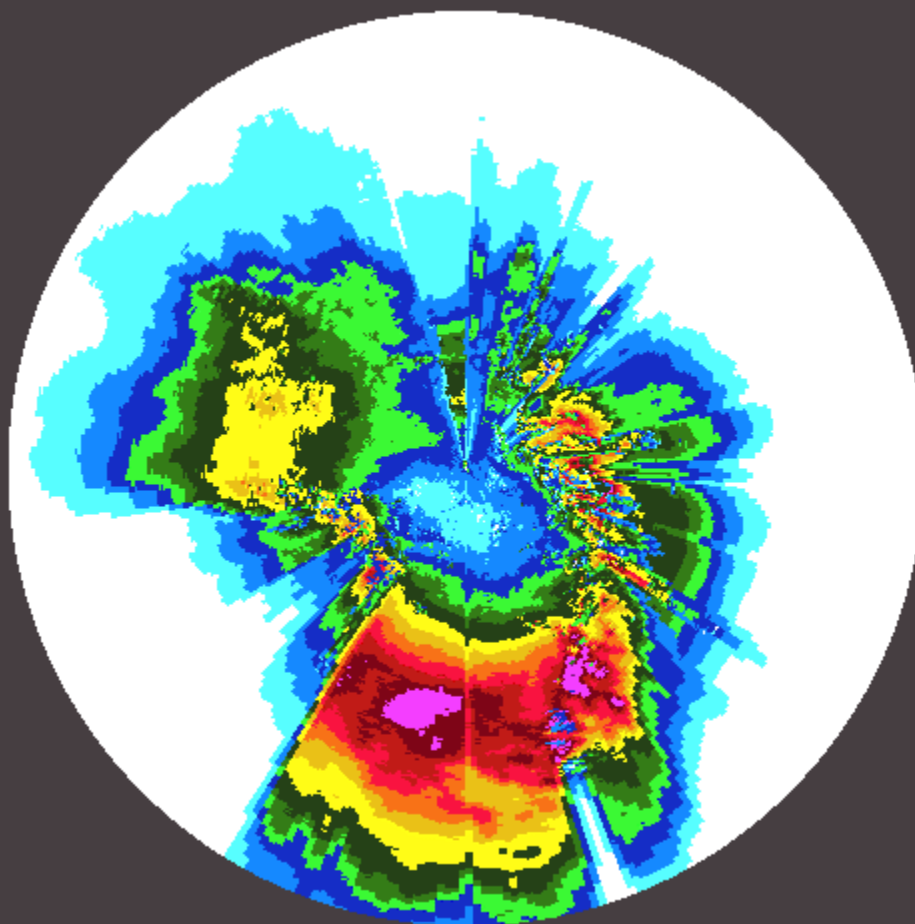
- Digital Storm Total product (DSP) [OHD]

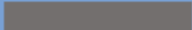


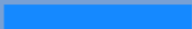



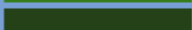





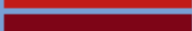
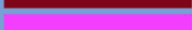

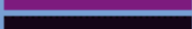
# PPS - ORPG Bid 4

- Enhanced Preprocessing algorithm (EPRE) [ROC,OHD]
  - Supports new VCPs, REC, PDF, RCA
- Range Correction algorithm (RCA) [OHD]



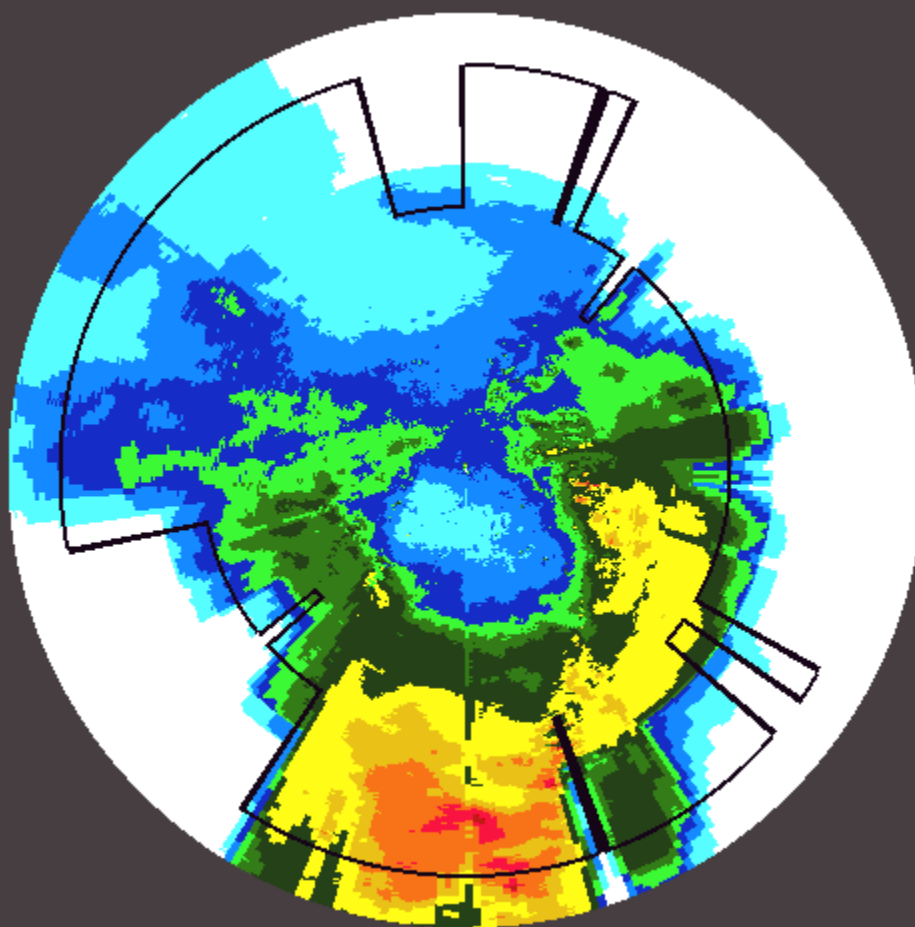
# Storm Total Rainfall - KATX, Unadjusted



Next	
Next Low	
Quit	
Rainfall Accumulation (Z=50R^1.6)	
	< 0.0 mm
	< 12.7 mm
	< 25.4 mm
	< 38.1 mm
	< 50.8 mm
	< 63.5 mm
	< 76.2 mm
	< 101.6 mm
	< 127.0 mm
	< 152.4 mm
	< 177.8 mm
	< 203.2 mm
	< 228.6 mm
	< 254.0 mm
	< 304.8 mm
	< 355.6 mm
	< 406.4 mm



# Storm Total Rainfall - KATX, Adjusted

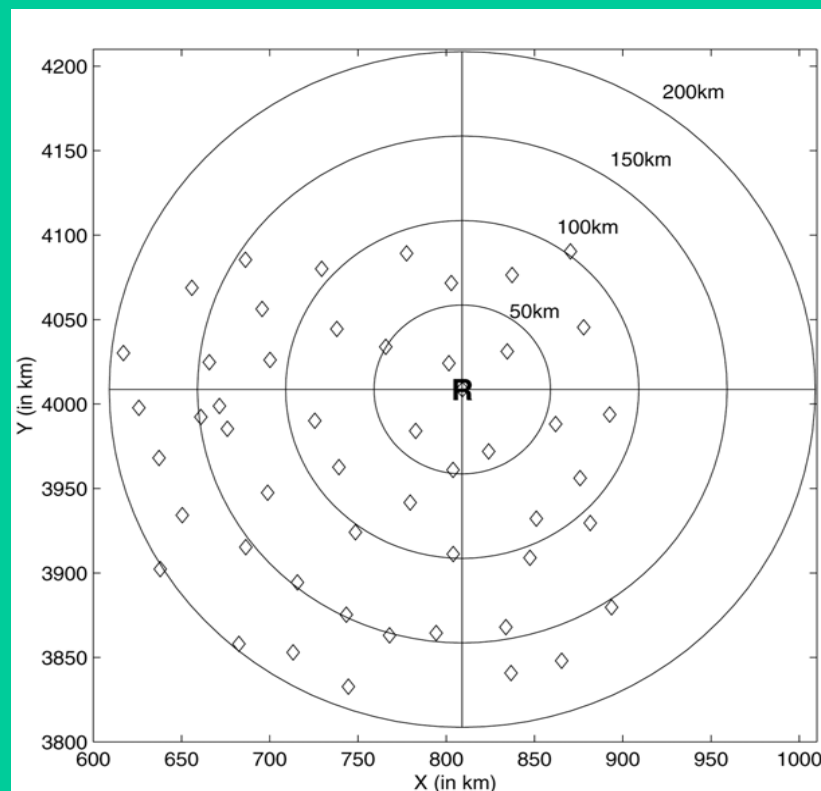


Next	
Next Low	
Quit	
Rainfall Accumulation (Z=50R^1.6)	
	< 0.0 mm
	< 12.7 mm
	< 25.4 mm
	< 38.1 mm
	< 50.8 mm
	< 63.5 mm
	< 76.2 mm
	< 101.6 mm
	< 127.0 mm
	< 152.4 mm
	< 177.8 mm
	< 203.2 mm
	< 228.6 mm
	< 254.0 mm
	< 304.8 mm
	< 355.6 mm
	< 406.4 mm



# Application to the radar data from Tulsa (OK)

- 2 years of WSR-88D data from Tulsa (Oklahoma) under an efficient format (ASCII-RLE format, Kruger and Krajewski, 1997).
- An accompanying database of rain gauge observations





# VALIDATION

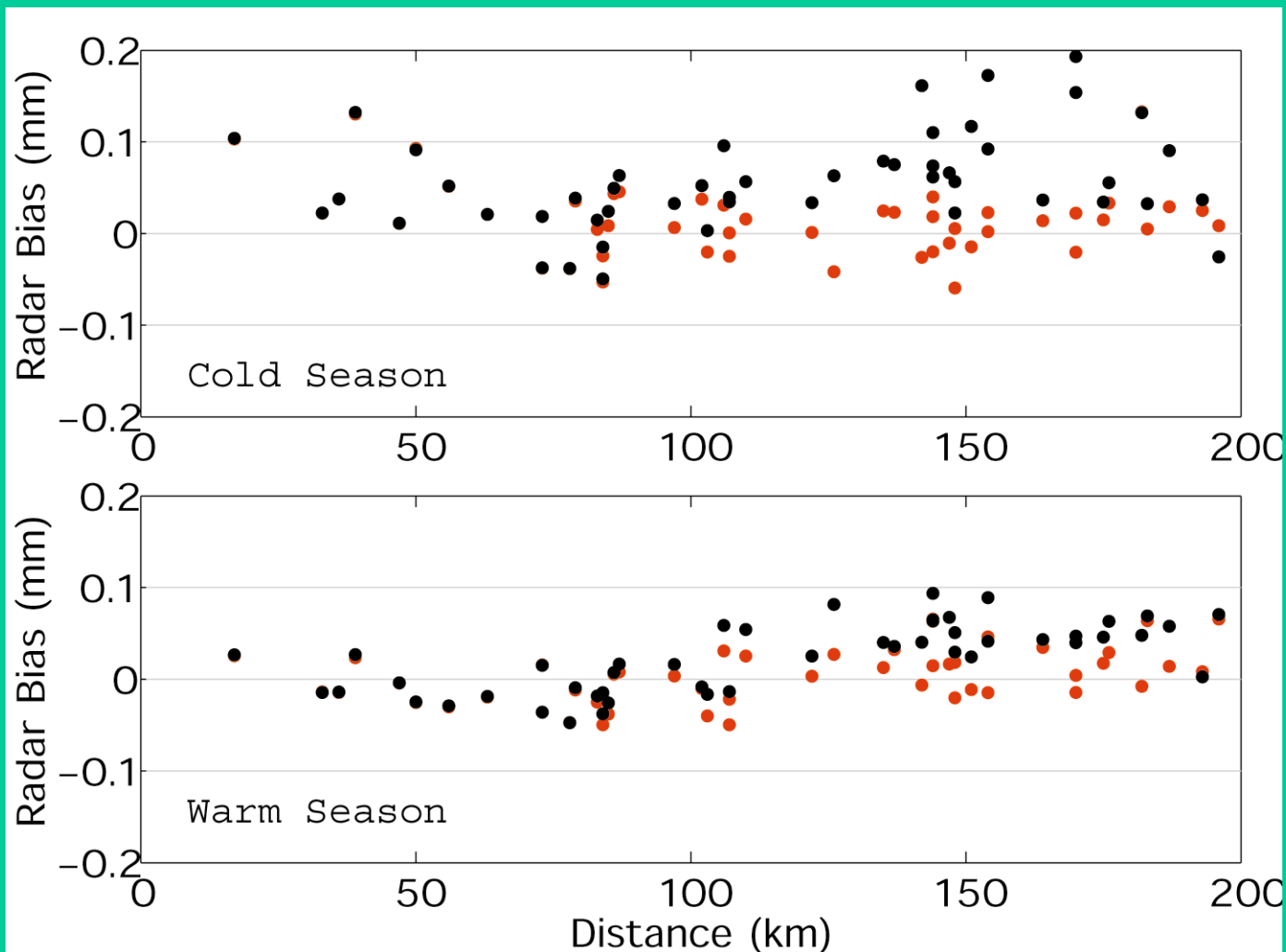
- Comparison between hourly rainfall accumulation from radar and gauge

Cold Season	Without correction	Mean VPR	Tested Method	Local VPR
RMS (mm)	0.87	0.76	0.70	0.68
BIAS (mm)	0.08	0.01	0.01	0.01

Warm Season	Without correction	Mean VPR	Tested Method	Local VPR
RMS (mm)	0.70	0.72	0.71	0.65
BIAS (mm)	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01



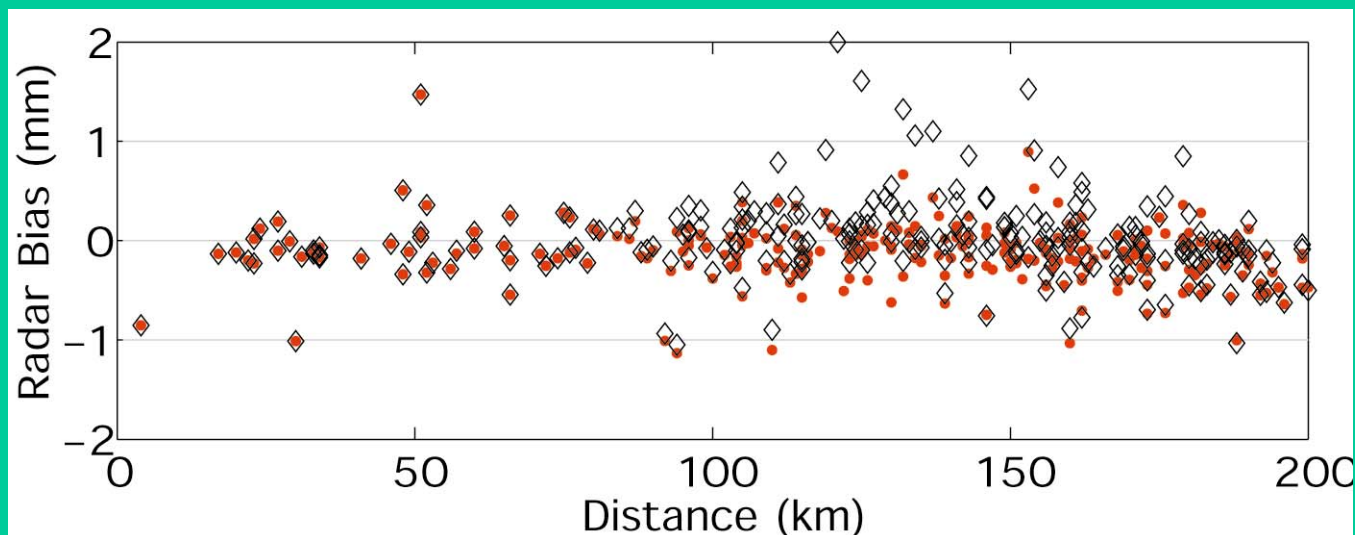
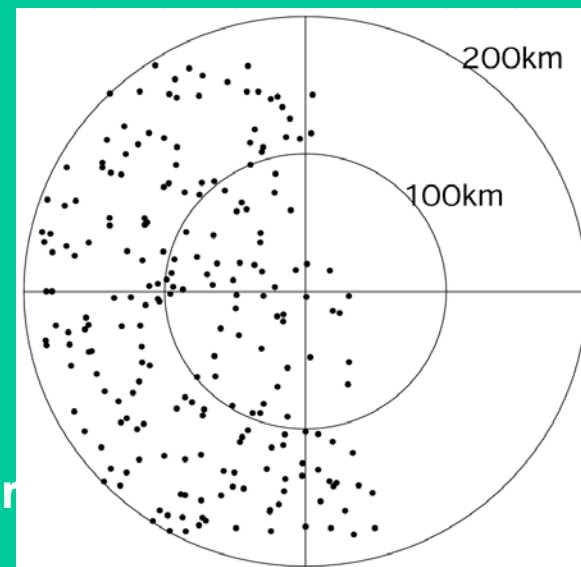
## Range-dependant bias reduction





## Mayville, N.D., preliminary results

- Radar data: 90 days over a 2 years period
- Rain-gauge data: Daily accumulation from the North Dakota State water commission network





# Beyond ORPG Bid 4

- Snow Accumulation Algorithm (SAA) [USBR,ROC,OST]
- Improved beam blockage delineation and correction [Iowa,OHD,ROC]
- Convective-stratiform separation [OHD]
  - Supports RCA
- Parallel precipitation processing
- Polarimetry



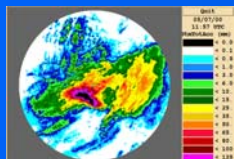


# MPE - AWIPS Bld 5.1.2

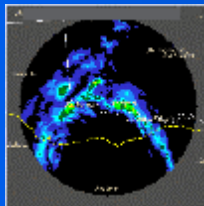
- Currently runs at the NWS River Forecast Centers (RFC)
- Replaces Stage III at the RFCs
- To replace Stage II at the WFOs in Bld 5.2.2



DHR



DPA



WSR-88D



ORPG/PPS

Auto-Estimator

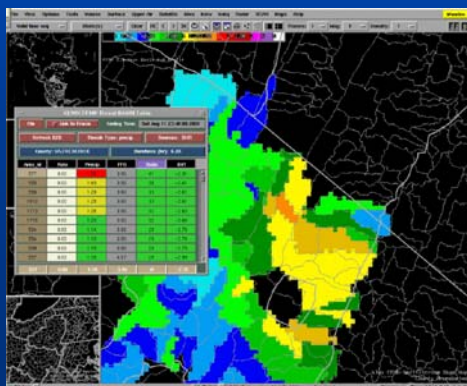


Rain Gauges

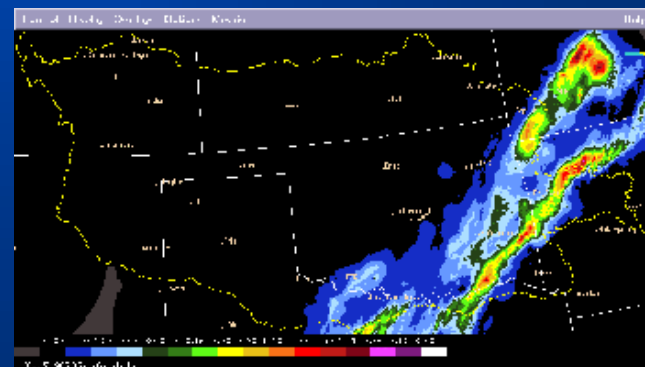


Flash Flood Monitoring  
and Prediction (FFMP)

Multi-Sensor Precipitation  
Estimator (MPE)



WFO

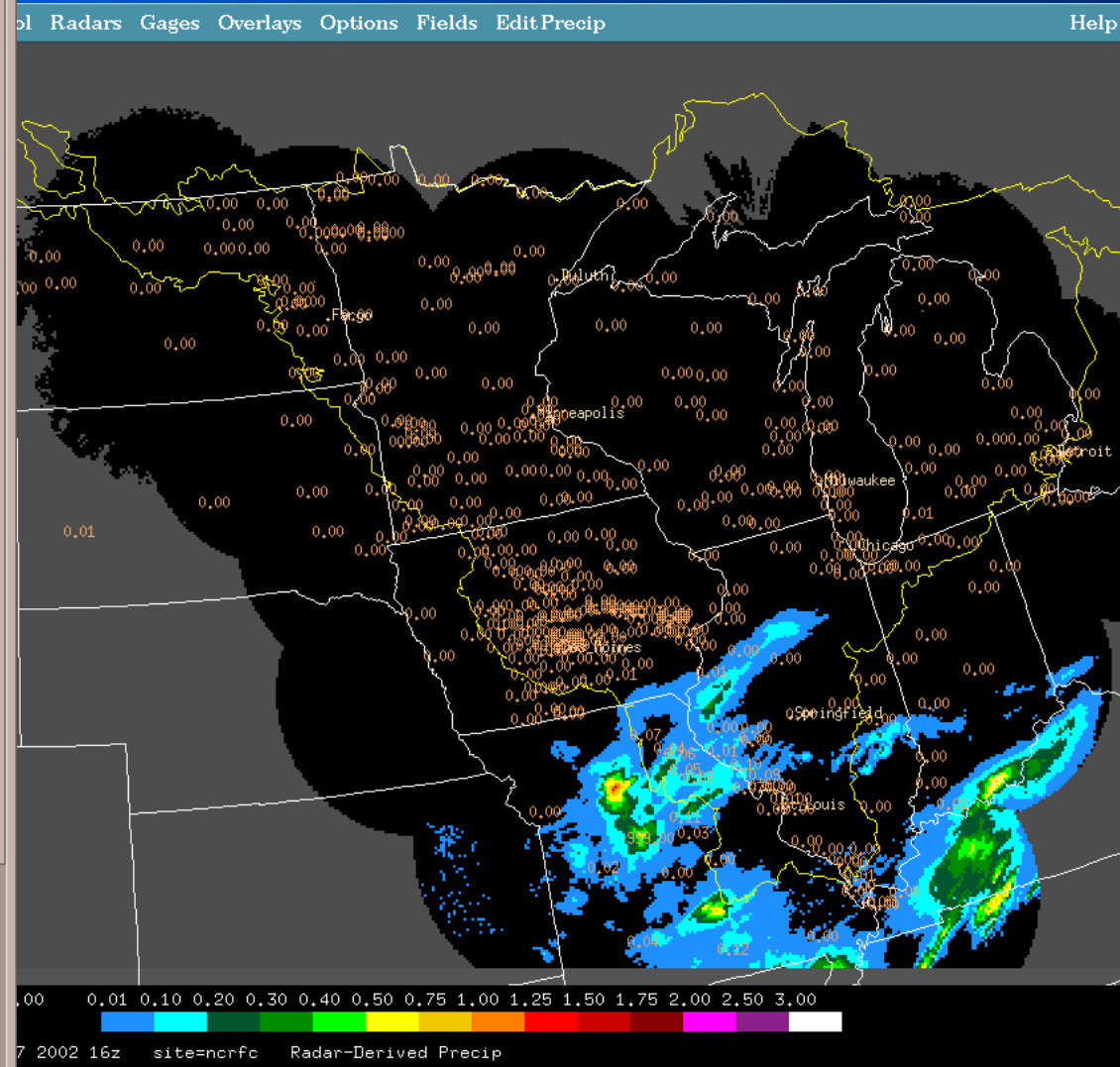


RFC



ABR	0.91	NO	300	1.40
APX	1.00	NO	300	1.40
ARX	0.72	NO	300	1.40
BIS	1.00	NO	300	1.40
CLE	0.92	NO	300	1.40
DLH	0.97	NO	200	1.60
DMX	0.74	NO	300	1.40
DTX	0.90	NO	300	1.40
DVN	1.00	NO	300	1.40
EAX	0.70	NO	300	1.40
FSD	0.75	NO	300	1.40
GGW	1.00	NO	300	1.40
GRB	0.79	NO	300	1.40
GRR	1.31	NO	N/A	N/A
ILX	0.94	NO	300	1.40
IND	1.19	NO	300	1.40
IWX	1.18	NO	300	1.40
LOT	0.95	NO	300	1.40
LSX	0.67	NO	300	1.40
MBX	1.00	NO	300	1.40

# MPE MFB and Z-R List





# MPE - AWIPS Bid 5.2.2

- Generation of Bias Table
- New D2D-like GUI
- Utilization of multi-hour rain gauge data
- Display of satellite-derived precipitation estimates

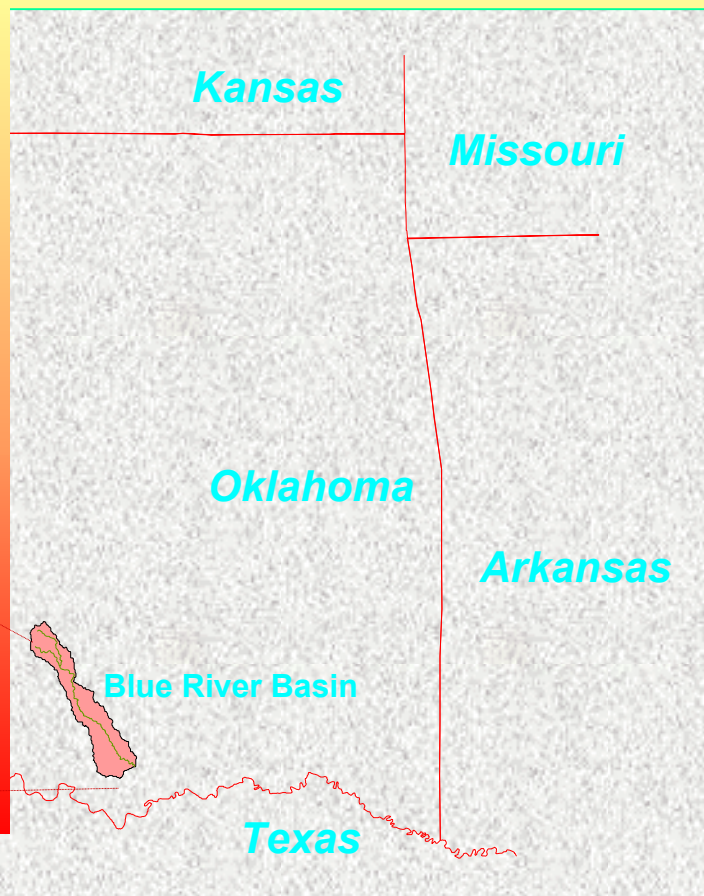
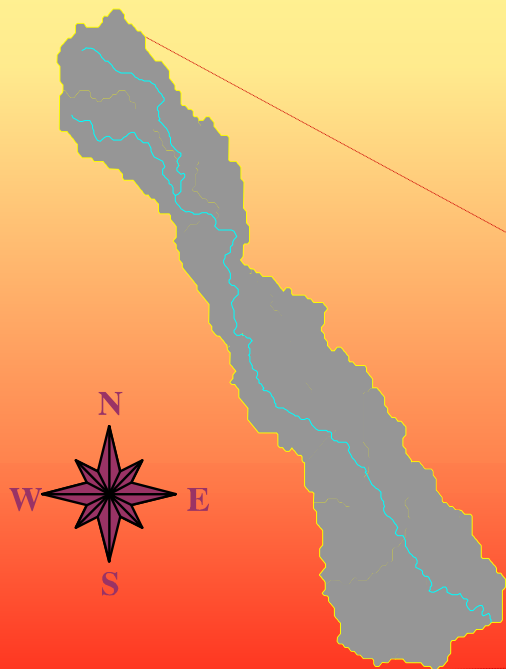
# Where (radar) hydrology is headed...

Test Basin

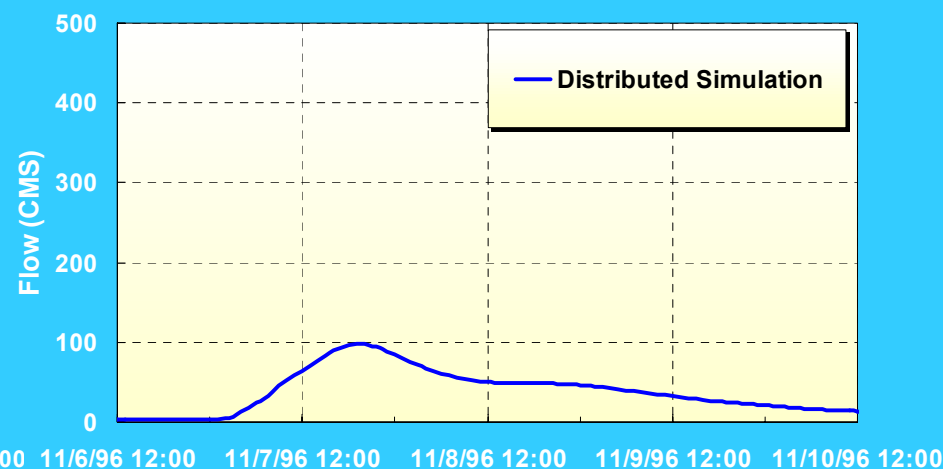
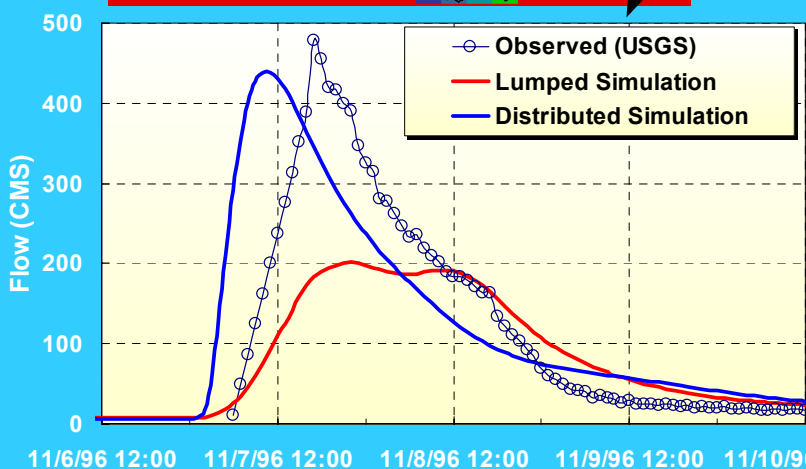
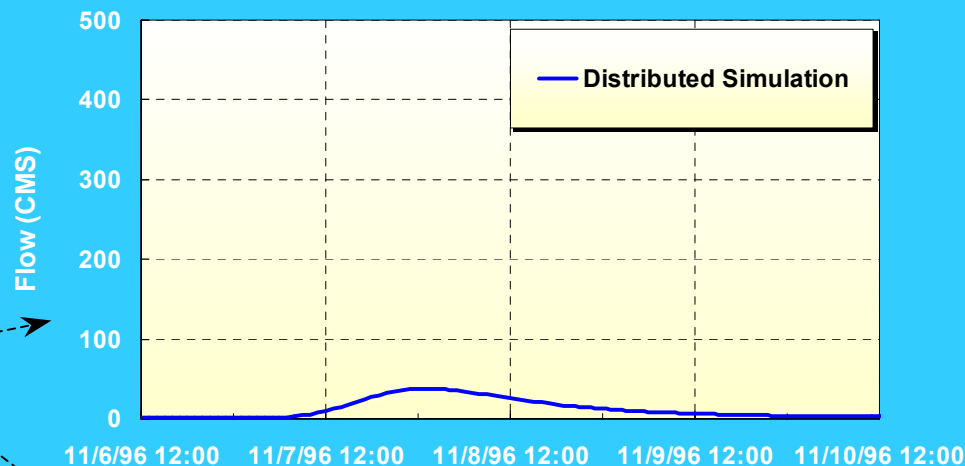
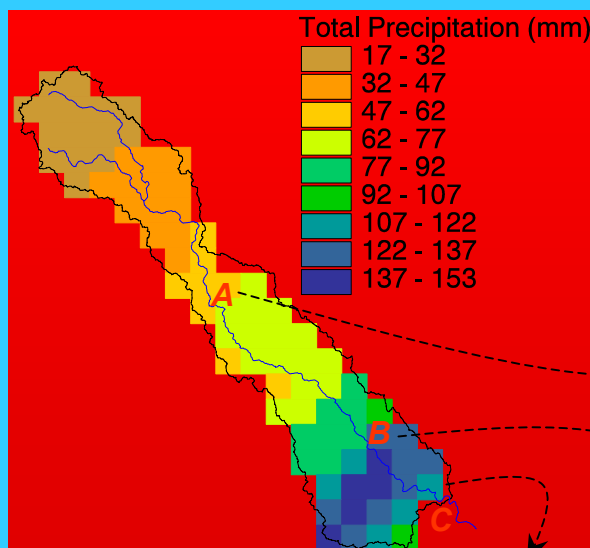


Blue River Basin, OK

Area: 1233 km<sup>2</sup>



# Test Results → Hydrographs @ Interior Points





# In Closing...

- Radar-based/aided precipitation estimation activities are driven by the accuracy requirements that span a wide range of space-time scale (flash flood to climate)
- ORPG and CODE have (finally) opened the door for major scientific improvements
- First things first;
  - handle on systematic biases in detection and estimation (0th- and 1st-order errors)
  - provision of the quality/bias info as a part of the product



## In Closing...(cont.)

- Planned and future improvements reflect where the science of hydrologic prediction is headed;
  - distributed hydrologic models (stringent accuracy requirement over a wide range of scale)
  - ensemble/probabilistic prediction (requirement for forecast uncertainty)
- Through;
  - multi-sensor
  - multi-radar
  - parallel estimation
  - rigorous quality/value assessment over a range of scales
  - provision of quality/uncertainty info as a part of the product